



## Mazda MX5 (Miata) 2006+ QuickLIFT Installation Guide

### Step 1 - Unpack QuickLIFT System and verify contents.

Remove all items from the packing tube. You should have the following before beginning:

- \* (2) Gas spring - Part No. **RT-QL-200-2A**
- \* (2) Ball-stud brackets (smaller bracket used on hood)
- \* (4) MG #2 Rivets - for hood bracket
- \* Jack-nut assembly - (1) special wrench, (2) washer, (2) jack-nut
- \* Printed Color Instructions



### Step 2 - Gather the required tools.

Please gather the following tools before you begin the installation:

- \* Power Drill
- \* 3/16", indexed #11 drill bits
- \* 7/16" drill bit
- \* 1/2" socket and socket wrench (or 13mm)
- \* Fine permanent marker or felt tip pen
- \* Tape Measure or ruler
- \* Masking Tape
- \* Hammer & center punch
- \* Rivet gun, capable of 3/16" rivets (most brands can handle this size)

**Note:** Only use the rivets supplied in the QuickLIFT kit.

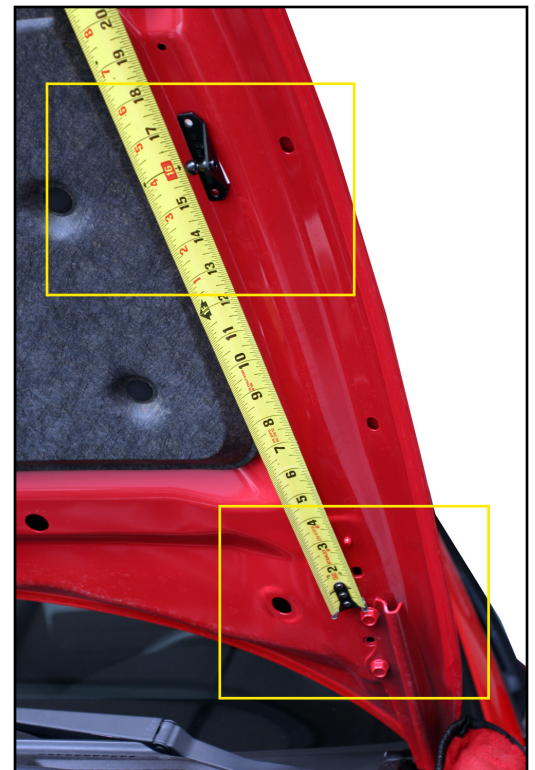


*Recommended:* Craftsman standard or Swivel Riveter (shown - 974749) - \$9.99 to \$17.99

### Step 3 - Mark hood bracket centerline.

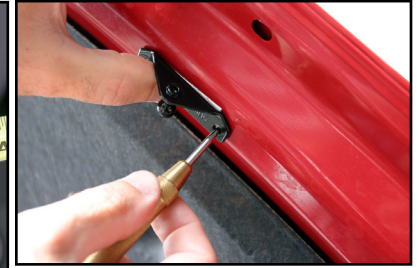
A. Raise hood and prop it using prop rod for the last time.

B. Measure from the top of the hood's hinge up along the hood's frame and place a mark at **14-3/4"**. This mark will be used to align the closest edge of the hood bracket. View hood from side of vehicle to mark location. Bracket should be placed on the hood frame starting at this location.



### Step 4 - Mark lower hole for drilling.

A. Holding bracket in place with the ball-stud pointing inward, mark the center of the lower hole using a permanent felt tip marker or sharp center punch. Be sure the bracket is straight and sitting flat against the hood's frame about **2-3/4"** in from the hood's edge - measured as shown.



B. Set bracket aside. Using a center punch and a hammer, tap the center of the mark you just made.

### Step 5 - Drill #11 indexed bit hole, or 3/16" hole.

A. Carefully drill the lower bracket hole as shown to the right using a **#11 indexed bit** or (**use 3/16" bit if #11 bit is not available**).

If you do not have a #11 indexed bit, you can use the 3/16" bit, however you may have to test fit the rivet and slightly ream hole until rivet fits tightly through bracket and hole - 3/16" is slightly smaller than the #11 bit. Do not use any other drill bit sizes!

**Wrap a piece of electrical tape around the drill bit about 1/4" from the tip to prevent the bit from denting the hood skin. Use new and sharp bits!**



### Step 6 - Rivet lower end of bracket to hood.

A. Touch up hole with touch up paint.

B. With the bracket lined up again, place the rivet through the bracket and hole with the long stem sticking outward - shown to the right. The rivet may require a few twists while pushing it in.

C. Check to be sure your rivet gun has the **3/16"** rivet head installed, then slide rivet gun onto rivet. While applying downward force on rivet and bracket, firmly squeeze riveter handle multiple times until rivet gun pops and snaps off the rivet stem.



### Step 7 - Drill and rivet upper hole

A. Reposition or rotate bracket into the proper position parallel to the frame. Tap center of the hole. Carefully drill the second hole through bracket hole and hood and then rivet to the hood.



## Step 8 - Remove small wire loom christmas tree

A. Remove plastic christmas tree holding small wire loom near firewall. This hole will be enlarged to hold ball-stud and jack-nut assembly.



## Step 9 - Enlarge to 7/16" for jack-nut assembly.

A. Using a **7/16"** drill bit, carefully enlarge the steel hole. You may find it easier to start with a smaller drill bit and work your way up to the 7/16" size. **Do not drill any larger than 7/16"**.



## Step 10 - Insert jack-nut assembly and tighten

A. Insert the jacknut assembly into the hole with the ball-stud on top as shown to the right. The only portion that should go into the hole will be the jack-nut itself. The wrench should have the small ripples on the bottom to bind to jack-nut when tightening. *This device will expand and flare the legs when tightening, creating a blind nut to complete the installation.*

B. Using a **1/2" or 13mm** socket wrench, tighten the ball-stud while holding the included wrench. This will flare the jack-nut legs on the back side and secure it in place. **DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN. STOP WHEN IT BEGINS TO FIRM UP.**

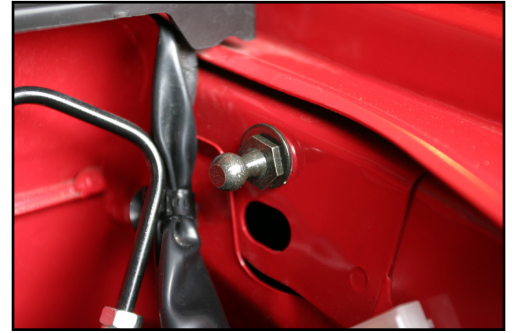
TIP: Push firmly on the whole assembly with the socket wrench while holding the jack-nut wrench. By pushing firmly, you will help the wrench to bind to the jack-nut and keep it from twisting.

C. Once tight, remove the ball stud and wrench, then re-install the ball-stud with the supplied washer. Tighten down - do not overtighten.



### Step 11 - Remove wrench - repeat on pass. side

- A. Check to be sure that the ball-stud feels secure. If not, tighten the ball-stud slightly until it feels secure. **Overtightening will cause the jack-nut to loosen and not work properly.**
- B. Remove the ball-stud, washer and wrench....
- C. Reinstall the ball-stud and washer then securely tighten.  
**DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN**
- D. Repeat procedure on passenger side.



### Step 12 - Cycle gas spring - then install

- A. **CYCLE GAS SPRING BEFORE INSTALLING** - firmly hold a gas spring with both hands by the thick cylindrical end - firmly press down on the floor or carpet and compress the spring. Have a friend hold the hood up. Remove the stock prop rod assembly at this time.



### Step 13 - Install gas spring onto fender ball-stud.

- A. Snap extending strut socket onto the fender ball-stud.
- B. Snap housing end of strut onto hood ball-stud.
- C. Enjoy your hood QuickLIFT system

